



## Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program

### Facts on Breast and Cervical Health in Washington State:

- Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among Washington women.
- Most breast cancers occur in women over the age of 50, and the risk is especially high for women over age 60.
- Mortality due to breast cancers sharply increases with age, with the majority of deaths in women age 50 and older.
- Although most cases of invasive cervical cancer occur in women older than 50 (the majority of whom have not been screened adequately), cervical cancer affects younger women more frequently than most other types of cancer.

For more information please contact:

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[VISIT OUR WEBSITE!](http://www.doh.wa.gov/wbchp)  
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/wbchp>

Uninsured Washington women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer while enrolled in the Washington Breast and Cervical Health Program (WBCHP) are now assured of the medical treatments they need, thanks to a law passed by the 2001 Legislature and signed by Governor Gary Locke. The law created an extraordinary partnership in which two state agencies – the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) – work with a private cancer-fighting foundation to make sure both the detection program and medical coverage are available to low-income women who lack health insurance. The program is supported by a donation to the state by the Puget Sound chapter of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which supports education, screening, diagnosis, treatment and research in the field of female breast cancer.

The screening is conducted by DOH's WBCHP funded by the state and the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. The actual cancer treatment medical coverage, when necessary, is provided under the Medicaid program operated by the DSHS Medical Assistance Administration.

### *Women can receive full-scope Medicaid coverage if they:*

- Are screened by the WBCHP and diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer and
- Require treatment, and
- Don't have health insurance coverage.

**Women who want to find out more about Washington state's early cancer detection programs can call the Department of Health's Washington Breast and Cervical Health Program at 1-888 438 2247. Additional information is available on the DOH Internet site at [www.wa.gov/doh](http://www.wa.gov/doh) or on the DSHS Internet site at <https://www2.wa.gov/dshs/maa/Eligibility/BCCTP.htm>**

Access to the Medicaid program can only be obtained through DOH's Washington Breast and Cervical Health Program. Only women whom the program has screened and who require treatment will be eligible for Medicaid coverage under this law.